

**What is claimed is:**

1        1. A sanitary door opener adapted to be mounted to a door having a bottom edge, a front  
2        panel and a rear panel, said sanitary door opener comprising (a) a bottom face having a depth  
3        corresponding to the depth of said bottom edge of said door; (b) a front face; (c) a rear face,  
4        and (d) a top face extending outwardly from said rear face at an angle of 90° or less;

5                wherein, said sanitary door opener is installed onto said door by sliding said door  
6        opener under said door such that said bottom face contacts said bottom edge, said front face  
7        contacts said front panel and said rear face contacts said rear panel, and securing said front  
8        face to said front panel and said rear face to said rear panel.

1        2. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a plurality  
2        of apertures in each of said front face and said rear face, each of said plurality of apertures  
3        adapted to receive a screw in such a manner that said front face can be screw-mounted to said  
4        front panel and said rear face can be screw-mounted to said rear panel.

1        3. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 1, wherein said front face is  
2        secured to said front panel by an adhesive material and said rear face is secured to said rear  
3        panel by an adhesive material.

1        4. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 1, wherein said sanitary door  
2        opener is manufactured from a strong and flexible metal material.

1        5. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 4, wherein said sanitary door  
2        opener is manufactured from a metal material selected from brass and stainless steel.

1        6. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 5, wherein said sanitary door  
2        opener is manufactured from a single sheet of material.

1        7. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a lip which  
2        extends downwardly at an angle of about 45° from said top face.

1       8. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 1, wherein said top face is  
2       provided with a gripping material.

1       9. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 7, wherein said top face and said  
2       lip are provided with a gripping material.

1       10. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 1, wherein said bottom face is  
2       comprised of a first portion joined to said rear face and a second portion joined to said front  
3       face, said first portion adapted to engage said second portion in such a manner that the depth  
4       of said bottom face is adjustable.

1       11. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 1, wherein said rear face is  
2       configured with a width which corresponds to the width of said rear panel, thereby  
3       conforming said rear face to a conventional kick plate.

1       12. A sanitary door opener adapted to be mounted to a door having a bottom edge, a front  
2       panel and a rear panel, said sanitary door opener comprising (a) a bottom face having a depth  
3       corresponding to the depth of said bottom edge of said door; (b) a front face; (c) a rear face;  
4       (d) a top face extending outwardly from said rear face at an angle of 90° or less, and (e) a lip  
5       extending downwardly at an angle of about 45° from said top face;

6                 wherein, said sanitary door opener is installed onto said door by sliding said door  
7       opener under said door such that said bottom face contacts said bottom edge, said front face  
8       contacts said front panel and said rear face contacts said rear panel, and securing said front  
9       face to said front panel and said rear face to said rear panel.

1       13. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 12, wherein said sanitary door  
2       opener is manufactured from a single sheet of material.

1       14. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 12, wherein said top face and said  
2       lip are provided with a gripping material.

1       15. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 12, wherein said bottom face is  
2       comprised of a first portion joined to said rear face and a second portion joined to said front  
3       face, said first portion adapted to engage said second portion in such a manner that the depth  
4       of said bottom face is adjustable.

1       16. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 12, wherein said rear face is  
2       configured with a width which corresponds to the width of said rear panel, thereby  
3       conforming said rear face to a conventional kick plate.

1       17. A sanitary door opener adapted to be mounted to a door having a bottom edge, a front  
2       panel and a rear panel, said sanitary door opener comprising

3               (a) a bottom face having a depth corresponding to the depth of said bottom edge of  
4       said door;

5               (b) a front face having a width between about six inches (6") and about twelve inches  
6       (12");

7               (c) a rear face having a width between about six inches (6") and about twelve inches  
8       (12");

9               (d) a top face extending outwardly from said rear face at an angle of 90° or less, said  
10      top face having a width of between about two inches (2") and about four inches (4"), and

11               (e) a lip extending downwardly at an angle of about 45° from said top face, said lip  
12      having the same width as said top face;

13               wherein, said sanitary door opener is installed onto said door by sliding said door  
14      opener under said door such that said bottom face contacts said bottom edge, said front face  
15      contacts said front panel and said rear face contacts said rear panel, and securing said front  
16      face to said front panel and said rear face to said rear panel.

1       18. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 17, wherein said sanitary door  
2       opener is manufactured from a single sheet of material.

1       19. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 17, wherein said top face and said  
2       lip are provided with a gripping material.

1       20. The sanitary door opener in accordance with claim 17, wherein said bottom face is  
2       comprised of a first portion joined to said rear face and a second portion joined to said front  
3       face, said first portion adapted to engage said second portion in such a manner that the depth  
4       of said bottom face is adjustable.